

188542

To Whom It May Concern:

I am contacting you in reference to a letter received about Utilities Services of South Carolina, Inc. customers, regarding another rate adjustment request. As a resident, in a community serviced by USSC, I would like to request that a hearing be held in Anderson County, SC regarding case docket # 2007-286-W/S. I understand that the scheduled hearing will be held in Columbia on December 13, 2007 at 10:30am, but will not be able to attend due work hours. I would like to request that a hearing be scheduled in Anderson County, for evening hours so that maximum attendance can be arranged.

Our community is very concerned about, yet another, rate hike from USSC in the past two years on our water supply. In my area of Hidden Lakes Subdivision, my water is supplied by West Anderson Water Co. and is merely distributed by USSC. As customers of USSC, we pay the actual water supply cost, passed along from West Anderson Water Co., in addition to the inflated charges that we pay USSC to handle the distribution. These come in the form of a "Basic Facilities Charge" and a "Water Distribution (Commodity) charge" for USSC to "handle" the water routing from the bulk flow meter to our homes. The new rate adjustment request is a **67% increase** on the Basic Facilities Charge and the Commodity charge. This is a very substantial increase in charges, which already exceed the water utility charges of other local suppliers.

According to the notice mailed to customers, USSC is seeking the rate increase to provide adequate service, comply with standards, earn a reasonable return on investment and attract capital for future improvements. If the current rates do not insure the success of these principles, how will a rate increase help? If the system cannot be maintained by USSC with West Anderson Water doing the water supply, testing and treatment portion, what will assure us that more rate increases are not soon to follow? With the company based in Columbia, what type of manpower do they have in our location to handle issues? We are repeatedly plagued with varying pressures, including extremely low pressure at times during the day.

I would ask that the PSC review the information in this case and not grant USSC this rate increase.

Thank you,



Scott Johnson
509 Old Shoals Dr.
Anderson, SC 29625
Hidden Lakes. Sub.

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PSC SC
MAIL / DMS

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SEP 13 2007

Willoughby & Hoefler, P.A.